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UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

'10 CV 2158
Case Number:

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JOUBIN MORTEZAPOUR, AND SEYED RAZAVI INDIVIDUALLY AND ON BEHALF OF ALL OTHERS SIMILARLY SITUATED

PLAINTIFFS,

V.

DIRECTV, INC., and DIRECTV HOLDINGS LLC, DEFENDANTS.

CLASS ACTION

COMPLAINT FOR DAMAGES

AND INJUNCTIVE RELIEF PURSUANT TO THE TELEPHONE CONSUMER PROTECTION ACT, 47 U.S.C § 227 ET SEO.

Jury Trial Demanded

## Introduction

1. Joubin Mortezapour (hereinafter "Mortezpour") and Seyed Razavi (hereinafter "Razavi"), or collectively referred to as "Plaintiffs", bring this class action for damages, injunctive relief, and any other available legal or equitable remedies, resulting from the illegal actions of Directv, Inc. (hereinafter "Directv" or "Defendant"), and Directv Holdings, LLC (hereinafter "Holdings"



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or "Defendant"), collectively referred to as "Defendants", in negligently, and/or willfully contacting Plaintiffs on Plaintiffs' cellular telephones, in violation of the Telephone Consumer Protection Act, 47 U.S.C. § 227 et seq., ("TCPA"), thereby invading Plaintiffs' privacy. Plaintiffs allege as follows upon personal knowledge as to themselves and their own acts and experiences, and, as to all other matters, upon information and belief, including investigation conducted by their attorneys.

#### JURISDICTION AND VENUE

- 2. Jurisdiction is proper under 28 U.S.C. § 1332(d)(2) because Plaintiffs seek relief on behalf of a national class, which will result in at least one class member belonging to a different state than that of Defendants. Plaintiffs also seek up to \$1,500 in damages for each call in violation of the TCPA, which, when aggregated among a proposed class number in the tens of thousands, exceeds the \$5,000,000 threshold for federal court jurisdiction. Therefore, both elements of diversity jurisdiction under the Class Action Fairness Act of 2005 ("CAFA") are present, and this Court has jurisdiction.
- Venue is proper in the United States District Court for the Southern District of 3. California pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 1391(b) and 1441(a) because Defendants do business within the State of California and the County of San Diego.

### **PARTIES**

- 4. Plaintiffs are, and at all times mentioned herein was, individual citizens and resident of the State of California. Plaintiffs are, and at all times mentioned herein were, "person(s)" as defined by 47 U.S.C. § 153 (10).
- 5. Directv is the nation's largest provider of digital-to-home (DTH) entertainment via satellites to residential and commercial customers, with over 18 million subscribers and revenues in 2009 of more than \$21 billion. Holdings is a wholly owned subsidiary of Directv. Both Defendants are Delaware corporations but both have their headquarters in California and both do business within this

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judicial district and in the County of San Diego. Both Defendants were at all times mentioned herein, corporations and "persons," as defined by 47 U.S.C. § 153 (10).

Plaintiffs are informed and believe, and on the basis of that information and 6. belief allege, that at all times mentioned in this Complaint, Defendants were the agents and employees of their codefendants, and in doing the things alleged in this Complaint, were acting within the course and scope of that agency and employment.

## FACTUAL ALLEGATIONS

- At all times relevant, Plaintiffs were individuals residing within the State of 7. California. Plaintiffs are, and at all times mentioned herein were, "persons" as defined by 47 U.S.C. § 153 (10).
- Defendants are, and at all times mentioned herein were, corporations and 8. "persons," as defined by 47 U.S.C. § 153 (10).
- On multiple occasions over numerous days, all prior to the date this 9. Complaint was filed, but sometime after four years prior to the date this Complaint was filed, Defendants, either directly or through their agents, contacted both Plaintiffs on Plaintiffs' respective cellular telephones via an "automatic telephone dialing system," as defined by 47 U.S.C. § 227 (a)(1).
- During these telephone calls Defendants used "an artificial or prerecorded 10. voice" as prohibited by 47 U.S.C. § 227 (b)(1)(A).
- The telephone numbers Defendants called were assigned to a cellular 11. telephone service for which Plaintiffs incurred charges for incoming calls pursuant to 47 U.S.C. § 227 (b)(1).
- These telephone calls constituted calls that were not for emergency purposes 12. as defined by 47 U.S.C. § 227 (b)(1)(A)(i).

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- Plaintiffs did not provide prior express consent to Defendants to receive calls 13. on Plaintiffs' respective cellular telephones, pursuant to 47 U.S.C. § 227 (b)(1)(A).
- These telephone calls by Defendants violated 47 U.S.C. § 227(b)(1). 14.

## **CLASS ACTION ALLEGATIONS**

- Plaintiffs bring this action on behalf of themselves and on behalf of and all 15. others similarly situated ("The Class").
- 16. Plaintiffs represent, and are members of, The Class, consisting of all persons within the United States who received any telephone call(s) from Defendants to said persons' cellular telephones made through the use of any automatic telephone dialing system or an artificial or prerecorded voice, within the four years prior to the filing of this Complaint.
- Defendants, their employees and agents are excluded from The Class. 17. Plaintiffs do not know the number of members in The Class, but believe The Class Members number in the tens of thousands, if not more. Thus, this matter should be certified as a Class action to assist in the expeditious litigation of this matter.
- Plaintiffs and members of The Class were harmed by the acts of Defendants 18. in at least the following ways: Defendants illegally contacted Plaintiffs and Class members via their cellular telephones thereby causing Plaintiffs and Class members to incur certain cellular telephone charges or reduce cellular telephone time for which Plaintiffs and Class members previously paid, by having to retrieve or administer messages left by Defendants during those illegal calls, and invading the privacy of said Plaintiffs and Class members. Plaintiffs and The Class were damaged thereby.
- 19. This suit seeks only damages and injunctive relief for recovery of economic injury on behalf of The Class and it expressly is not intended to request any recovery for personal injury and claims related thereto. Plaintiffs reserve the

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right to expand The Class definitions to seek recovery on behalf of additional persons as warranted as facts are learned in further investigation and discovery.

- 20. The joinder of the Class members is impractical and the disposition of their claims in the Class action will provide substantial benefits both to the parties and to the court. The Class can be identified through Defendant's records.
- There is a well-defined community of interest in the questions of law and fact 21. involved affecting the parties to be represented. The questions of law and fact to the Class predominate over questions which may affect individual Class members, including the following:
  - a. Whether, within the four years prior to the filing of this Complaint, Defendants made any call (other than a call made for emergency purposes or made with the prior express consent of the called party) to a Class member using any automatic telephone dialing system or an artificial or prerecorded voice to any telephone number assigned to a cellular telephone service.
  - b. Whether Plaintiffs and the Class were damaged thereby, and the extent of damages for such violation; and
  - c. Whether Defendants should be enjoined from engaging in such conduct in the future.
- 22. As persons that received numerous calls using an automatic telephone dialing system or an artificial or prerecorded voice, without either Plaintiffs' express prior consent, and as persons that never provided their respective cellular telephone numbers to Defendants for the purpose of receiving unsolicited calls on their cellular telephones, Plaintiffs are asserting claims that are typical of the Class. Plaintiffs will fairly and adequately represent and protect the interests of the Class in that Plaintiffs have no interests antagonistic to any member of the Class.

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- 23. Plaintiffs and the members of the Class have all suffered irreparable harm as a result of the Defendants' unlawful and wrongful conduct. Absent a class action, the Class will continue to face the potential for irreparable harm. In addition, these violations of law will be allowed to proceed without remedy and Defendants will likely continue such illegal conduct. Because of the size of the individual Class member's claims, few, if any, Class members could afford to seek legal redress for the wrongs complained of herein.
- Plaintiffs have retained counsel experienced in handling class action claims 24. and claims involving violations of the Telephone Consumer Protection Act.
- A class action is a superior method for the fair and efficient adjudication of 25. this controversy. Class-wide damages are essential to induce Defendants to comply with federal and California law. The interest of Class members in individually controlling the prosecution of separate claims against Defendant is small because the maximum statutory damages in an individual action for violation of privacy are minimal. Management of these claims is likely to present significantly fewer difficulties than those presented in many class claims.
- Defendants have acted on grounds generally applicable to the Class, thereby 26. making appropriate final injunctive relief and corresponding declaratory relief with respect to the Class as a whole.

### FIRST CAUSE OF ACTION

# NEGLIGENT VIOLATIONS OF THE TELEPHONE CONSUMER PROTECTION ACT 47 U.S.C. § 227 ETSEQ.

- Plaintiffs incorporate by reference all of the above paragraphs of this Complaint 27. as though fully stated herein.
- The foregoing acts and omissions of Defendants in making the calls to the cell 28. phones of Plaintiffs and The Class constitute numerous and multiple negligent

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# FIRST CAUSE OF ACTION FOR NEGLIGENT VIOLATION OF THE TCPA, 47 U.S.C. § 227 ET Seq.

- As a result of Defendants' negligent violations of 47 U.S.C. § 227(b)(1), Plaintiffs seek for themselves and each Class member \$500.00 in statutory damages, for each and every violation, pursuant to 47 U.S.C. § 227(b)(3)(B).
- Pursuant to 47 U.S.C. § 227(b)(3)(A), injunctive relief prohibiting such conduct in the future.
- Any other relief the Court may deem just and proper.

# SECOND CAUSE OF ACTION FOR KNOWING AND/OR WILLFUL VIOLATION OF THE TCPA, 47 U.S.C. § 227 ET SEQ.

- As a result of Defendants' willful and/or knowing violations of 47 U.S.C. § 227(b)(1), Plaintiffs seek for themselves and each Class member treble damages, as provided by statute, up to \$1,500.00 for each and every violation, pursuant to 47 U.S.C. § 227(b)(3)(B) and 47 U.S.C. § 227(b)(3)(C).
- Pursuant to 47 U.S.C. § 227(b)(3)(A), injunctive relief prohibiting such conduct in the future.
- Any other relief the Court may deem just and proper.

## TRIAL BY JURY

Pursuant to the seventh amendment to the Constitution of the United States of

America, Plaintiffs are entitled to, and demand, a trial by jury.

Date: October 15, 2010

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By:

Abbas Kazerounian, Esq.

Attorneys for Plaintiff

Kazerouni Law Group

%JS 44 (Rev. 12/07)

## CIVIL COVER SHEET

The JS 44 civil cover sheet and the information contained herein neither replace nor supplement the filing and service of pleadings or other papers as required by law, except as provided by local rules of court. This form, approved by the Judicial Conference of the United States in September 1974, is required for the use of the Clerk of Court for the purpose of initiating the civil docket sheet. (SEE INSTRUCTIONS ON THE REVERSE OF THE FORM.)

the civil docket sheet. (SEE INSTRUCTIONS ON THE REVERSE OF THE FORM.)				
I. (a) PLAINTIFFS		DEFENDANTS		_
Joubin Mortezapour, and Seyed Razavi, individually and on behalf of all others similarly situated  Directv, Inc., and Directv/jij@l@jf@s LEc P1 2: 29				
(b) County of Residence	of First Listed Plaintiff San Diego	County of Residence of	f First Listed Defendant	Los Angeles
(E	XCEPT IN U.S. PLAINTIFF CASES)	OTE: IN LANI	(IN U.S. PLAINTIFF CASES, US O CONDEMNATION CASES, US NVOLVED.	ONLY)
(c) Attorney's (Firm Name, Address, and Telephone Number)  Attorneys (If Known)				
	n, Esq. 2700 North Main Street, Ste. 10	050. Unknown *10	CV2158	/ı/RBB
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Santa Ana, CA 92866. 800-400-6808  II. BASIS OF JURISDICTION (Place an "X" in One Box Only)  III. CITIZENSHIP OF PRINCIPAL PARTIES(Place an "X" in One Box for Plaintiff				
II. DASIS OF JURISI	ICTION (Flace an "X in One Box Only)	(For Diversity Cases Only)	RESCHALTARTILS	and One Box for Defendant)
☐ 1 U.S. Government Plaintiff	▼ 3 Federal Question (U.S. Government Not a Party)	Citizen of This State		
☐ 2 U.S. Government Defendant	☐ 4 Diversity  (Indicate Citizenship of Parties in Item III)	Citizen of Another State	2	
		Citizen or Subject of a  Foreign Country	3 🗓 3 Foreign Nation	0606
IV. NATURE OF SUIT (Place an "X" in One Box Only)				
CONTRACT	TORTS	FORFEITURE/PENALTY	BANKRUPTCY	OTHER STATUTES
110 Insurance	PERSONAL INJURY PERSONAL INJURY	1	☐ 422 Appeal 28 USC 158 ☐ 423 Withdrawal	400 State Reapportionment 410 Antitrust
☐ 120 Marine ☐ 130 Miller Act	☐ 310 Airplane ☐ 362 Personal Injury - ☐ 315 Airplane Product Med. Malpractice		28 USC 157	430 Banks and Banking
☐ 140 Negotiable Instrument	Liability 🗍 365 Personal Injury -	of Property 21 USC 881		450 Commerce
☐ 150 Recovery of Overpayment & Enforcement of Judgment	☐ 320 Assault, Libel & Product Liability Slander ☐ 368 Asbestos Persona		PROPERTY RIGHTS  3 820 Copyrights	☐ 460 Deportation ☐ 470 Racketeer Influenced and
151 Medicare Act	330 Federal Employers' Injury Product	☐ 650 Airline Regs.	☐ 830 Patent	Corrupt Organizations
☐ 152 Recovery of Defaulted	Liability Liability  340 Marine PERSONAL PROPER	☐ 660 Occupational  TY Safety/Health	O 840 Trademark	480 Consumer Credit 490 Cable/Sat TV
Student Loans (Excl. Veterans)	345 Marine Product 370 Other Fraud	☐ 690 Other		810 Selective Service
☐ 153 Recovery of Overpayment	Liability 371 Truth in Lending	LABOR	SOCIAL SECURITY	☐ 850 Securities/Commodities/
of Veteran's Benefits  160 Stockholders' Suits	☐ 350 Motor Vehicle ☐ 380 Other Personal ☐ 355 Motor Vehicle Property Damage	☐ 710 Fair Labor Standards Act	☐ 861 HIA (1395ff) ☐ 862 Black Lung (923)	Exchange  875 Customer Challenge
☐ 190 Other Contract	Product Liability   ☐ 385 Property Damage	720 Labor/Mgmt. Relations	☐ 863 DIWC/DIWW (405(g))	12 USC 3410
☐ 195 Contract Product Liability ☐ 196 Franchise	☐ 360 Other Personal Product Liability Injury	☐ 730 Labor/Mgmt.Reporting & Disclosure Act	☐ 864 SSID Title XVI ☐ 865 RSI (405(g))	890 Other Statutory Actions 891 Agricultural Acts
REAL PROPERTY	CIVIL RIGHTS PRISONER PETITION		FEDERAL TAX SUITS	☐ 892 Economic Stabilization Act
☐ 210 Land Condemnation	441 Voting 510 Motions to Vacate		☐ 870 Taxes (U.S. Plaintiff	893 Environmental Matters     894 Energy Allocation Act
☐ 220 Foreclosure ☐ 230 Rent Lease & Ejectment	☐ 442 Employment Sentence ☐ 443 Housing/ Habeas Corpus:	791 Empl. Ret. Inc. Security Act	or Defendant)  O 871 IRS—Third Party	894 Energy Allocation Act     895 Freedom of Information
240 Tosts to Land	Accommodations 🗇 530 General		26 USC 7609	Act
☐ 245 Tort Product Liability ☐ 290 All Other Real Property	☐ 444 Welfare ☐ 535 Death Penalty ☐ 445 Amer. w/Disabilities - ☐ 540 Mandamus & Oth	IMMIGRATION  1er		O 900Appeal of Fee Determination Under Equal Access
2 27 20 21 C 12 20 20 20 20 20 20 20 20 20 20 20 20 20	Employment 🗇 550 Civil Rights	☐ 463 Habeas Corpus -		to Justice
	446 Amer. w/Disabilities - 555 Prison Condition Other	Alien Detainee  1 465 Other Immigration		950 Constitutionality of State Statutes
	440 Other Civil Rights	Actions		State Statistes
V. ORIGIN (Place an "X" in One Box Only)  Appeal to District  Original 2 Removed from 3 Remanded from 4 Reinstated or 5 Transferred from 6 Multidistrict 7 Judge from  Judge from 7 Judge f				
Proceeding State Court Appellate Court Reopened anomier district Litigation Magistrate (specify) Judgment				
Cite the H.S. Civil Statute under which you are filing (Do not cite jurisdictional statutes unless diversity):				
VI. CAUSE OF ACTI	ON Brief description of cause:	The state of the s		
VII. REQUESTED IN COMPLAINT:	CHECK IF THIS IS A CLASS ACTION UNDER F.R.C.P. 23	DEMAND \$	CHECK YES only JURY DEMAND:	if demanded in complaint:
VIII. RELATED CAS IF ANY	E(S) (See instructions): JUDGE		DOCKET NUMBER	
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Receipt Number: CAS019144

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Transaction Date: 10/15/2010 Payer Name: KAZEROUNI LAW GROUP

CIVIL FILING FEE

For: MORTEZAPOUR V DIRECTV

Case/Party: D-CAS-S-10-CV-002158-001 \$350.00

Amount:

CHECK

Check/Money Order Num: 112 Amt Tendered: \$350.00

Total Due: Total Tendered: \$350.00

\$350.00

Change Amt: \$0.00

There will be a fee of \$45.00 charged for any returned check.